

ever I felt myself covered with loathsome moral disease—it was when, in connexion with my name, Africans could think that I would steal or ill use them. I felt what I wish Americans may feel; I soon dissipated their fears.—(Cheers) I placed them by the side of my own children—told them to go hand in hand. I put them all in a vehicle we have, and drove them through the town; and I never felt a prouder moment in my life. (Cheers.) And where are they now? In the missionary school, and there shall they stop. When I left Jamaica, they wept as bitterly as any one with whom I parted. I will, in a few minutes, enter on the subject of American slavery; but if an American come here, and you ask him whether he is a hearty decided abolitionist—if he answers in the affirmative, and then begins to say, “But, but, but;” you may know what to do with him at once. (Loud cheers.) Before I proceed, I wish to present the work of a little negro boy, 14 years old, which has been entrusted to me as a present for Mr. Struge (it consisted, we believe, of a writing desk, and was received by the Chairman amid the long continued cheers of the assembly.) Thanking you (continued the Rev. gentleman) for the response you have made to the appeal I thought it my duty to make on behalf of increased labours in Jamaica to promote the welfare of the sons and daughters of Africa, fully giving that meed of praise which is justly due to other denominations engaged in this glorious work, allow me for a moment or two to revert to a subject that ought to be dear to every Christian heart, and which is now about to engage the attention of the Christian church. I understand there is an individual from America who wishes to speak; I do not know who he is, but I trust there will be full liberty of speech; I pledge myself to meet any one, friend or foe, fully to discuss the subject. I have a right to speak on this topic, and why? Because the same atrocities are practised by Christians in America that were committed by slave-owners in Jamaica. I have a right to speak of it, for the American churches are identifying themselves with ours. It is time we knew the position in which we stand, because my brethren and sisters in America are degraded, robbed, are peeled, are destroyed, are flogged, are maimed, are sold by ministers of every denomination, and by members of every church. (Loud cries of Hear, hear.) These things are true; it is right that they should be known; if they are not true, then let those who deny them prove their untruth. (Cheers.) We are too enlightened now to take the mere hearsay or the mere denial of slave-owners—(Cheers)—we must have what we are determined to have—the mist which has enveloped the subject cleared away, before the churches in America are fit to be received into communion with us. (Cheers.) Are they fit or are they not? I feel that they are not. I say that murder, licentiousness, and crime, of every name and of every degree, rests palpably and directly upon them; and I aver that five out of six of the southern churches and pastors, so far as share-owners are concerned, would think it a merit to hang me on a tree for my anti-slavery opinions. (Cheers.) I have been told that the moment I set my feet on their shores, their hands would be imbrued in my blood. (Hear, hear.) The Baptist emancipationists of America are obliged to flee to Jamaica from their countrymen and fellow-Christians. (Cries of “Shame.”) It was but the other day that numbers of them landed on the West India shores, pleading for the wrongs of their countrymen, as urged by a sense of safety, to flee away from their native land. America writes liberty blood, and fetters freedom in chains. She measures it by the colour of the skin, and when she holds out liberty to all, and tells all they are born free and equal, she takes my brethren and sisters and manacles them, binds them, chains them, flogs them, and then beseeches the God of mercy to convert the world. (Hear, hear.) What I wish you to decide with respect to America is, that you will have no fellowship with it. I know you will say that we were equally guilty. But who made us so? We went out with instructions not to touch the subject. We forbore; we could do so no longer; we mourned over our past conduct; and we got rid of the sin.

Christianity views man as man, irrespective of his colour, or his circumstances; it would convey, and must convey, and shall convey that which shall elevate him in the scale of society, and place him in his right position in the temple of his God. (Cheers.) I thank you most sincerely for having listened to me so attentively on this important subject, and I hope that one and all will join with me and say—

“ Guided by our Redeemer’s laws,  
Of truth, of right, for suffering man,  
Be it ours to fight in freedom’s cause,  
As Christians ought, as Christians can !  
Still pouring on unwilling ears,  
That truth, oppression only fears.”

The Rev. gentleman then resumed his seat amidst deafening applause.